



THE **VOICE** PROJECT  
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New York, NY 10003  
[www.voiceproject.org](http://www.voiceproject.org)

May 27, 2016

Information and Privacy Coordinator  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, D.C. 20505  
Fax: 703-613-3007

**Re: Freedom of Information Act Request**

Dear Coordinator:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. subsection 552, I am requesting the following: All information, records and documents related in whole or in part to the Central Intelligence Agency's policy, involvement with, influence on, attempted or contemplated influence on, advice or other communications regarding the topic of U.S. NON-MILITARY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AID TO FOREIGN STATES.

In order to be helpful with keyword suggestions that could return records relevant to the above-mentioned topic, I would suggest perhaps in addition to those records, documents and communications topically referencing **aid** (**foreign aid** programs of the non-military kind, e.g. **development aid**, **economic assistance**, etc.), a search including but not limited to:

1. Topical mentions of, or strategic communications with personnel from, **USAID** (United States Agency for International Development) and **AID** (Agency for International Development) programs; **IDCA** (International Development Cooperation Agency), **ITA** (International Trade Administration), **USTDA** (U.S. Trade and Development Agency), **OPIC** (Overseas Private Investment Corporation); **Ex-Im Bank** (Export–Import Bank of the United States), the **Alliance for Progress**;
2. Records, documents and communications regarding **bilateral transfers** such as "**ODA**" (Official Development Assistance); and
3. Agency involvement with or discussion of **multilateral transfers**, **loans** and other **economic development assistance** through third parties such as the **IMF** (International

Monetary Fund), the **WTO** (World Trade Organization) and the **IDB** (Inter-American Development Bank), and the **World Bank** and **WBG** (World Bank Group) including its subsidiary organizations **IBRD** (International Bank for Reconstruction and Development), **IDA** (International Development Association), **IFC** (International Finance Corporation), **MIGA** (Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency) and **ICSID** (International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes).

Please search all records as I am trying to discover both historical patterns of influence in foreign aid as well as recent examples in order to advance the scholarship on this issue, *especially with what information can be safely disclosed from previously undisclosed documents, security classified or previously classified documents, information, communications, emails and/or cable traffic.*

I would like to receive the records in electronic form, and by e-mail, if possible.

I am willing to pay for duplication and other fees up to a maximum of \$50. If you estimate that the fees will exceed this limit, please inform me with an estimate of costs before processing my request. However, I am seeking a public interest fee waiver under 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(iii) and thereby requesting to have all fees (including duplication) waived since the material requested (1) “is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations or activities of government” and (2) “is not primarily in the commercial interest of the requester.”

Specifically, the information provided would likely contribute to the public understanding of the operations or activities of government by clarifying the relationship between various government agencies, and the influence of non-humanitarian focused agencies and competing priorities such as geopolitical, defense, strategic, trade and other concerns on aid implementation, efficacy and the determination of foreign economic development assistance levels, as well as the actuality and mechanics of specific aid delivery to foreign states.

Studies have shown that after more than 50 years and one trillion dollars of economic development assistance to foreign states, there exists no strong (non-fragile) statistical correlation to actual economic development across recipient states. In order to better serve humanitarian goals and refocus our policies to achieve their stated humanitarian ends such as per capita GDP growth and the alleviation of poverty, we need to understand to what extent have programs with explicit humanitarian goals, such as economic development assistance and non-military foreign aid, been refocused from their stated primary objective and subsumed by other strategic objectives, and what role do non-aid focused agencies play in this. Aid effectiveness is under increased scrutiny now as we currently face a number of great and historic humanitarian, migration and refugee crises around the globe. The root problem of failed states is being examined, and aid's role needs to be explored in this context.

I am the executive director of The Voice Project, and organization, which has a substantial social media following and an engaged audience, which works to support advocacy for effective, positive social change, and so I am well placed to disseminate this information to the public.

If the agency regards any of the documents as potentially exempt from disclosure under the FOIA, please nonetheless exercise your discretion in disclosing them. Please do release all

reasonably segregable, nonexempt information within a document in keeping with the segregability requirement.

If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact me on my cell phone at 310.993.7198, by fax at 646.607.9110, at the above listed address, or by email at [hunter@voiceproject.org](mailto:hunter@voiceproject.org). I look forward to receiving your response within the twenty day statutory time period. If you deny all or any part of this request, please cite each specific exemption you believe justifies your refusal to release the information and notify me of appeal procedures available under the law. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Hunter M. Heaney  
Executive Director  
The Voice Project



Hunter Heaney &lt;hunter@voiceproject.org&gt;

## Successful transmission to 17036133007. Re: FOIA Request

send@mail.efax.com <send@mail.efax.com>  
To: hunterheaney@gmail.com

Fri, May 27, 2016 at 7:58 AM

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Dear Hunter,

**Re: FOIA Request**

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